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Russian Federation Trade Policy Monitoring Russia Bans Imports of Live Cattle 2004

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Report Highlights:

On April 17, the Russian Federation officially banned the import of live cattle from countries that have registered a case of BSE, including the United States. Russia had been a significant importer of live cattle, especially from Europe, for the past decade.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Moscow [RS1] [RS] On April 17, 2004, the Russian Federation officially announced that it was immediately initiating a ban on the import of all live cattle from any country that has registered a case of BSE. The Ministry of Agriculture cited the increasing number of countries finding multiple or isolated cases of BSE as the reason for this measure. This ban would affect the United States, Canada, the European Union, and other suppliers.

Russia has had significant bilateral relationships with European countries over the past ten years in the sphere of cattle breeding. As a result, Russia has imported thousands of beef and dairy pedigree cattle over that time, mostly from France and Germany. At this point, it is difficult to determine the impact of this ban on Russian cattle breeding programs as imports of bovine semen and embryos are still permitted.

The United States has not exported live cattle to the Russian Federation in the past seven years.